Roxbury, May 21, 1868.

Mr. Aaron Cooley:

~~Sir — The repetition of your letters~~ You should have understood long ere this, by my silence, that I intend doing nothing ~~is a great annoyance to me, and a waste of~~ further in your case; and, therefore, that it is a waste of time, ink and paper ~~on your part. My silence should~~ by you to persist in sending letters to me. have satisfied you, long ere this, that I intend to do nothing further in your case. This incessant importunity for money not only from me, but from a multitude of persons far and near, (especially in view of what you received long since from Mr. Phillips and myself, and have collected of others more recently,) indicates an utter want of self-respect in you, a beggarly method of raising means to support yourself, and is getting to be intolerable. It must be stopped — by public exposure if persisted in. It convinces me, more and more, that your alleged interference in my behalf, at the time of the mob in 1835, even if true, was prompted by no motives challenging my special gratitude. You were neither an acquaintance

or friend of mine, nor in favor of the Anti-Slavery movement; and your standing was not such as to demonstrate your interest in the good name and fame of Boston as an orderly city. Moreover, a large number of persons assisted in my rescue; and if you were one of them, you are the only one who has ever tried to make capital out of it for his own pecuniary benefit. No worthy, upright citizen ever deems it a matter of special merit, or as deserving of personal reward, for doing his part towards preserving public order in the midst of violence and misrule. You ought to be ashamed for so pertinaciously trying to extort money on such a pretence; and you must not do so any longer. Your application to the Duke of Argyll for a donation, last summer, on the ground of what you claimed to have done for me thirty-~~four~~ two years before, was the ~~climax~~ height of impropriety of indelicacy, and ~~effrontery~~ assurance; especially as it was made while I was in London, though unknown to myself, and manifestly on the strength of the

reception given to me by the Duke, as well as by other distinguished men in England. You did me a grievous wrong in making such an appeal to such a personage; and I have no language to express the moral displeasure I felt on being so coolly apprised of the shameful fact by yourself. Who else abroad you may have tried to operate upon so as to reach their pockets, in this manner, I know not; but you appear to be as unscrupulous in your solicitations as you are unblushing and untiring.

I have before me a letter of yours, dated Boston, March 16th, 1862, in which, after acknowledging the receipt at different times of more than a hundred dollars from Mr. Phillips and myself, you say, "You must excuse me for writing to you again: it is my last letter." How you have kept your promise, I need not describe. It would have been much to your credit if you had preserved silence from that day to this.

It is useless to refer me to Mr. Hawkes, or to any body else. It will be equally useless for you to send me any more letters, or to come out to my house for a personal interview. This must end all further communication between us — at least on my part.

W. L. G.

Regretting that you have compelled me to write thus plainly, and cherishing no unfriendly feelings for you, I remain,

Ms. A. 1.1 V.7 p84A